

**GRAY WATER DISTRICT
TRUSTEES MEETING
December 20, 2021**

Present: Bruce Sawyer, Steve Dunn, Mike MacDonald, Mitch Berkowitz, Joe Murray and Superintendent Bill Gardner. Bruce called meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Superintendent's Report:

1. Average gallons per day (AGD) for pumps 1&2 was 294,000. Pump 3 was run for 3 days 379,950.
2. Bacteria samples came back absent.
3. The Superintendent and Office Manager both attended the Maine Rural Water Association (MRWA) Annual Conference and Trade Show in Rockport. There were a lot of people there and the classes were good.
4. Cathy Robinson of MRWA will be starting on the 2022 rate case next month.

Trustee Reports:

Mitch reported that he received notification that the Maine department of Environmental Protection (MDEP) is looking to do PFAS testing in 34 Towns and Gray is one of them. There was an article in the Portland Press Herald as well as an email sent to the town. It's not clear why GWD wasn't notified directly. A report of PFAS containing ground water samples from the Gray Municipal Landfill for the Maine DEP was provided by Doug Webster of the Town of Gray on December 20, 2021. Doug stated that the Town Manager had received it December 16, 2021. We will continue to keep an eye out for addition information and requirements regarding PFAS testing.

OLD BUSINESS:

Landfill Test Well Results:

Nothing new to report. We still have not heard from the Town as to what their engineers have to say regarding the increased contaminants in the landfill test wells.

ACTION: Mitch volunteered to mention it next time he is speaking with the town.

NOAA Request for Service:

We are waiting for Doug of Gorrill-Palmer (GPE) to complete the feasibility study requested by NOAA.

ACTION: None

TIF-Town Project Discussions:

On the Route 115 project, Doug of GPE is waiting for the plans from the surveyors so he can get going on the engineering. We will be replacing a line from the beginning of Yarmouth Rd up over the hill to two valves. The Town has committed \$95,000 to get started on the engineering then \$400,000 + for the work.

ACTION: None

Federal Projects and Funding:

We have applied for a grant through USDA for the turnpike crossing. We are waiting for surveying to be completed.

Road Opening Permits:

Waiting to hear from the Town on their development of the draft of the revised permit ordinance

ACTION: None

Legislative Updates:

There is a new revision of the Lead & Copper Rule as of 2021. Trustees discussed the need for a grant writer and the possibility of coordinating with the Town to engage someone either part or full time.

ACTION: Mitch to explore this idea with members of Town Council. Bill to check with MRWA to find out if they have a grant writer on staff.

Gray Water District Charter:

The Superintendent met with the New Gloucester Town Manager to speak with her about our intention to change our charter to include a small piece of New Gloucester in order to service NOAA. She is fine with the changes we want to make and is willing to write a letter of support for the Legislature. We also received the letter of support we requested from the Gray Town Manager today. MRWA, who is helping us with the Charter change, suggested we get these letters in preparation for our meeting in Augusta. Now we are just waiting for Bradley from MRWA to get back to us.

NEW BUSINESS:

Cost of Living Adjustments (COLA):

Trustees and the Superintendent discussed the differences between COLA and merit raises. **Motion/Second** by Dunn/Murray to give all employees a 6% COLA. Merit increases will be considered after performance evaluations are completed by the Superintendent.

Vote to approve was unanimous.

Personnel:

Motion/Second by Berkowitz/Dunn to go into executive session per MRSA 405 (A) at 7:15 pm. Vote to approve was unanimous.

Motion/Second by Dunn/Murray to come out of executive session at 8:04 pm. Vote to approve was unanimous.

ACTION: Mitch to respond to email discussed in executive session.

OTHER:

Next scheduled regular meeting: January 24, 2021 @ 6:00 PM

Adjournment: 8:12 pm.

OUTSTANDING ITEMS:

- Route 100 TIF (South)
- Planning for the future/CIP programming
- G.I.S.
- Search for new water source

Respectfully submitted,

Sudiek Lester, Office Manager